

## Message Text

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21

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01

ACDA-05 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 /076 W

----- 101870

R 290605Z MAY 75

FM AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6077

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMCONSUL IZMIR

AMCONSUL ADANA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ISTANBUL 1610

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PINT, TU

SUBJ: REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY GAINS LEFTIST UNION CONFEDERATION  
SUPPORT

REF: (A) ISTANBUL 1591; (B) ISTANBUL A-11

1. DESPITE REPORTED OBJECTIONS OF MANY DELEGATES, CONFEDERATION OF  
REVOLUTIONARY TRADE UNIONS (DISK) CONCLUDED ITS FIFTH GENERAL  
CONGRESS MAY 21 BY GIVING ITS OFFICIAL ENDORSEMENT TO THE  
REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY (RPP). ALTHOUGH CONGRESS OPENED IN  
ORDERLY FASHION, DISCORD AROSE WHEN BURHAN SAHIN, HEAD OF  
BASIN IS PRESS UNION AND FOUNDER OF TURKISH SOCIALIST WORKERS'  
PARTY (TSWP) CHALLENGED LEADERSHIP OF DISK PRESIDENT KEMAL  
TURKLER AND CALLED FOR DISK SUPPORT OF TSWP. CONGRESS  
THEN MOVED TO CLOSED SESSION WHERE AFTER MUCH DEBATE TURKLER'S  
PROPOSAL TO ENDORSE RPP PASSED BY NARROW MARGIN.

2. COMMENT: DISK'S OFFICIAL ENDORSEMENT OF THE  
REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY IS THE FRUIT OF ACTIVE LOBBYING BY THE  
RPP (REF A) AND CAREFUL CALCULATION BY DISK AS TO HOW ITS OWN  
POLITICAL INTERESTS CAN BE SERVED. AS DISK HAS GROWN, IT HAS  
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BEEN UNDER PRESSURE FROM MEMBER UNIONS TO PURSUE A SOCIALIST

POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY CONSIDERABLY TO THE LEFT OF THE  
RPP, SUCH AS THE MARXIST IDEOLOGY OF THE TSWP AND BEHICE BOHAN'S  
RECONSTITUTED TURKISH LABOR PARTY (TLP). THE DISK LEADER-  
SHIP, HOWEVER, HAS BEEN PUTTING PRACTICAL POLITICS AHEAD OF  
IDEOLOGY. AS FORMER DISK GENERAL SECRETARY KEMAL SULKER  
TOLD US IN MARCH (REF B), DISK SEES NO POINT IN SUPPORTING  
PARTIES WITH LITTLE OR NO PARLIAMENTARY REPRESENTATION, WHILE  
RPP, ALTHOUGH NOT A SOCIALIST PARTY IS AT LEAST A QTE BRIDGE TO  
SOCIALISM QTE. THUS THE CONGRESS'  
DECISION REPRESENTS AT LEAST A TEMPORARY VICTORY FOR THE MORE  
MODERATE ELEMENTS OF THE LEFT-OF-CENTER CONFEDERATION, AND IN A  
FUTURE ELECTION MAY HELP GIVE THE RPP SOME VOTES WHICH  
OTHERWISE WOULD GO TO  
PARTIES OF THE EXTREME LEFT.  
MACE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LABOR UNIONS, LABOR UNION OFFICIALS, POLITICAL PARTIES, POLITICAL SITUATION  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750510/aaaaainp.tel  
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**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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